

**REMARKS****Drawings**

The drawings were objected to because the lines in Figure 4 were supposedly very unclear. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) were requested.

Applicant believes that this objection was made in error. A set of substitute drawings was submitted to the USPTO on July 12, 2004, and received on July 15, 2004. It is part of the image file wrapper and was used by the Office for the publication of the application.

**Claims****Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

Claims 6, 7, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 6, the limitation "a mid-class European motor vehicle" was deleted.

Claim 7 was amended to correctly refer to claim 4 instead of claim 1.

Claim 11 was clarified to specify which sensors were meant, i.e. at least a portion of the sensors introduced in claim 1.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamagiwa et al. (US 4,965,878.)

Claim 1 was amended to include the limitations of claim 2, which had been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 1. This claim was just rewritten as an amendment to claim 1 in order to avoid excessive renumbering of subsequent dependencies. Claim 2 was canceled accordingly, and claim 3 now properly refers to amended claim 1 instead of the old claim 2.

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Since claim 12 depends on amended claim 1, which had been indicated as being allowable, claim 12 is believed to be allowable as well.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagiwa et al.(US 4,965,878) in view of Shono et al. (US 6,240,348 B1).

Since claim 11 depends on amended claim 1, which was deemed allowable, claim 11 is believed to be allowable as well.

**CONCLUSION**

The presented patent claims 1 - 12 are believed to overcome all rejections and objections raised and are thus assumed to be patentable.

Respectfully submitted,



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